

Every time the left pan closes its circuit a portion of the current passes through the magnet of a recording pen, marking on a revolving drum. The wires with which the mercury cups make contact can be raised or lowered, thus varying the interval at which the marks are made. The movement of the balance is steadied by means of a disc fastened beneath one of the pans and moving up and down in a heavy liquid. A number of records can be traced simultaneously on the drum, so that it is possible to set up two or more plants under different conditions, together with an evaporimeter beside every plant and automatically record the water loss from each on the same drum. The apparatus is obtainable from Messrs. Baird & Tatlock, Cross Street, Hatton Garden, London, E.C.

It is perhaps asking too much that the fashioners of a beautiful piece of apparatus should also present a handsome series of results obtained with their invention. Yet it is difficult to repress altogether a feeling of resentment in viewing the one puny record contributed by the authors.

W. G. M.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

FEBRUARY 10, 1914

The first meeting of the Club in February was held February 10, 1914, at the American Museum of Natural History at 8:15 P.M. President Harper presided. Twenty-four persons were present. Mr. Charles Van Loan's resignation was tendered to the Club and accepted.

President Harper asked for permission to appoint a series of special committees to study the Cryptogamic flora of the vicinity of New York. Vice-President Barnhart then took the chair and opened the matter for discussion. Dr. Howe made a motion to grant President Harper the permission requested. The motion was unanimously carried.

The business program was then followed by an illustrated lecture on "The International Phytogeographical Excursion of 1913," by Dr. George E. Nichols. Dr. Nichols will publish a short account of the Expedition in *TORREYA* for April.

Meeting adjourned.

MICHAEL LEVINE,

Sec. pro tem.

FEBRUARY 25, 1914

The meeting of February 25, 1914, was held in the Laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P.M. President Harper presided. Twelve persons were present. The minutes of February 10 were read and approved.

The secretary read a communication from Dr. C. Stuart Gager relating to the death of Dr. L. Schöney who was at one time a member of the Torrey Club.

The treasurer announced a gift of one hundred and eight dollars to the Underwood Fund by Miss Caroline C. Haynes. This gift was the proceeds from the sale of "American Hepaticae" (Exsiccatae) prepared and distributed by Miss Haynes. A vote of thanks was extended to Miss Haynes for this generous contribution.

The first number on the announced scientific program consisted of a lecture on "The Nature and Inheritance of Fasciation," by Dr. O. E. White.

Dr. B. O. Dodge then reported briefly on the use of the stereoscope in connection with binocular microphotographs.

Adjournment followed.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary.

MARCH 10, 1914

The meeting of March 10, 1914, was held at the American Museum of Natural History at 8:15 P.M. President Harper presided. Twenty-four persons were present.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and transaction of other business were dispensed with. The announced scientific program was then in order.

Professor H. M. Richards delivered an illustrated lecture on "Some Aspects of Californian Coastal Vegetation."

Adjournment followed.

MICHAEL LEVINE,
Sec. pro tem.

MARCH 26, 1914

The meeting of March 26, 1914, was held in the Laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P.M. Vice-president Barnhart presided. Eighteen persons were present.

The minutes of the meetings of February 25 and March 10 were read and approved. Edward D. Hull, 6024 Ellis Ave., Chicago, Ill., was nominated for membership.

The death of Rev. J. Henry Watson and confirmation of the report of the death of Dr. C. B. Robinson were announced. On the motion of Norman Taylor a committee consisting of Dr. John H. Barnhart and Dr. Marshall A. Howe was appointed to draw up resolutions on the death of Dr. Robinson.

Edward D. Hull was then elected to membership.

The announced scientific program consisted of a paper on "Notes on the Local Flora," by Mr. Norman Taylor. These consisted chiefly of material taken from the introduction to his forthcoming work on the "Flora of New York and Vicinity."

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary.

NEWS ITEMS

Dr. Ross Aiken Gortner, who has been in charge of the Biochemical Laboratory of the Station for Experimental Evolution at Cold Spring Harbor, will take up his duties of Associate Professor in the newly established Department of Soil Chemistry at the University of Minnesota, August 1. The work in the Physico-chemical Properties of Vegetable Saps which he has been carrying on with Dr. J. Arthur Harris will be continued by his assistant, Mr. John V. Lawrence, and Dr. Harris.

Miss Susan Minns has given \$50,000 to the Botanical Department of Wellesley College, in memory of Susan M. Hallowell, the former Head of the Department.

Members of the Torrey Club are invited to attend a field meeting of the American Fern Society to be held July 16, 17 and 18 in the neighborhood of New York City. A trip to collect fern hybrids is contemplated as well as a visit to the New York Botanical Garden fern conservatories, and probably also a more extended trip for some special fern. Further information may be had by writing Mr. R. C. Benedict, 2303 Newkirk Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.